



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Cactus Channel improvements underway in Rialto



With temperatures topping 100 degrees and not a drop of rain in sight, it's hard to imagine a 100-year flood. Yet that standard must be maintained for storm drain construction on State Route 210.

Freeway storm drain systems, including the Cactus Channel now under construction in Rialto and Fontana, must be built to withstand the worst flood in 100 years, explained Greg Hefter, program manager for Fluor Corporation, SANBAG's consultant engineering firm. The channel not only will prevent the freeway from flooding, but also will relieve drainage problems on local city streets, Hefter said.

The Cactus Channel extends from east of Sierra Avenue in Fontana to just west of Spruce Avenue in Rialto, about 1.5 miles. The channel spans both Segment 8, managed by Caltrans, and a portion of Segment 9, managed by SANBAG. Riverside Construction is building both freeway segments.

About three-fourths of the storm drain will be housed in an open channel, while the remaining fourth will be encased in reinforced concrete pipe. The channel will run parallel to the freeway on the north, then cross to an outlet south of the freeway east of Ayala.



Workers pour and smooth concrete for the Cactus Channel near Highland Avenue in Rialto.

Work to begin on first sound wall

The first sound wall in Rialto should be underway by the end of August, with trenching and the placement of concrete footings.

The wall will be 16 feet tall and run along Tahoe Street on the south side of the freeway. As a result of the sound wall construction, Willow Avenue will be made into a cul de sac south of the wall.

Program to support Rancho Verde Plaza merchants

Business operators in the Rancho Verde Plaza, located at the northwest corner of Highland and Riverside Avenues in Rialto, will be offered the opportunity to take part in SANBAG's Business Support Program. A meeting will be held with plaza tenants August 19 to discuss the freeway construction and the support program.

Recognizing that businesses may be impacted during the Route 210 construction, SANBAG will provide regular updates to the center tenants, install signs and assist with marketing efforts. Signs will be erected this week to encourage shoppers to use the plaza during construction. Other signs will be posted to announce the closure of the Highland Avenue plaza driveway and to direct shoppers to the Riverside Avenue driveways.

Upcoming Rialto street closures ...

- Galway Street at Riverside and Oakdale
- Spruce Avenue north of Highland Avenue
- Willow Avenue south of Highland Avenue

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